

Submission
No 1371

INQUIRY INTO BIRTH TRAUMA

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially
Confidential

I never gave birth to my son because I had heard at all most all of my hospital only care appointments the risk of still birth in high maternal age mothers

I was 42

With previous trauma I did not want to be induced but was told at my first appointment by a junior doctor that I would be at 38 weeks as he yelled down the corridor to a colleague if I should be taking aspirin.

I always seen a different midwife, I was told to go with the flow when mentioned a natural birth.

At the end of my pregnancy the appointments got worse with more pressure to be induced, I agreed to a sweep thinking this might stop them hassling me-but it didn't.... My cervix was high and shut as my body and baby were not ready, I cried at these appointments

I tried to leave the room and a doctor tried to stop me from leaving the room by standing in the door and holding it.

She also said the birth is dangerous and my baby needed to be born on the day or he was at risk.

I had a uncomplicated pregnancy baby and myself were well throughout, I wanted a natural and unmediated birth

I was 40 weeks and four days, we had low fluid, ok for a natural birth but not an induced labour - Knowing this the doctors pushed for an induction knowing it would likely lead to a emergency C-section. I did not trust them, I did not want them to touch me.

I 'choose' to have an elective c section as I was so scared to wait any longer and I had heard the 'dead baby' phase so much.

I was a sobbing sad mess.

Just before the incision was made I said to my husband I was frightened, one of the nurses scolded me and said I needed to relax your about to meet your baby in very intolerable tone.

They cut through to arteries , I lost 1.5 litres of blood, I started convulsing and vomiting so I could only see my baby for a minute before they took him away.

When they brought my son to me I was able to get him to latch and feed, then they moved us to the intensive ward where people were constantly in and out of the room, poking and prodding us constantly- it was horrible.

My son was 3.8kg and lost only 40gram when we left the hospital

The nurses insisted he be given bottles even though I had bought 9 syringes of colostrum and was attached to a pump as he was not latching well which is not surprising given the environment.

To my disapproval I signed the form giving permission to give formula even though it felt like the wrong thing. He never got the latch right and I Pumped for 8 months.

My son had soy and dairy allergies so after 8 weeks of my little boy crying and trips to the hospital he started to poop blood and then the allergies were then diagnosed

Did giving him formula when he was a day old cause this? We can't know but it make me angry when I think about it.

I'm 20 week pregnant now with my second child

I am having this baby at home with a private midwife.

I would never use the public maturity system again